

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nobuyuki Furukawa **Examiner:** Unassigned
Serial No: To be assigned **Art Unit:** Unassigned
Filed: Herewith **Docket:** 17019
For: MEDICAL SYSTEM **Dated:** September 18, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,224,542 B1, dated May 1, 2001, issued to Chang et al.;
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,287,264, dated February 15, 1994, issued to Arita et al.; and
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 6-114065, published April 26, 1994 together with an English language abstract.

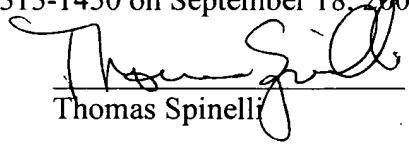
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 18, 2003.

Dated: September 18, 2003

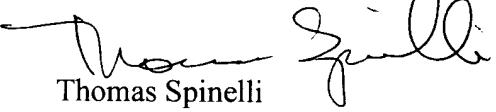


Thomas Spinelli

Applicant is submitting a copy of reference 3 together with an English language abstract. References 1 and 2 are not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. The relevance of reference 3 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,


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